the engaged position because of a torsional spring around pin **201**. Likewise, while the solenoid pin **205** is held in the blocking position **208**, the manual button **204** is partially blocked and cannot move lever **200**. Thus, this mechanism gives the software program the capability to control user insertion and removal of the media bay module.

FIG. **7** is a circuit diagram of the solenoid that is controlled by the computer software program. The solenoid circuit includes four MOSFETSs, four MOSFET drivers and a pair of monostable multivibrators. When the software sends a logic high level (+5 volts) signal to A, U**1** will generate a positive pulse to U**5** and U**6**. U**5** and U**6** then turn on Q**2** and Q**3**, which causes current to flow from point C to B of the solenoid and latch the solenoid in the closed position (the media bay module is locked.). When software sends a logic low level (ground) signal to point A, U**2** will generate a positive pulse to U**3** and U**4**. U**3** and U**4** then turn on Q**1** and Q**4**, which causes current to flow from point B to C of the solenoid and latch the solenoid in the open position (the media bay module is unlocked.).

While this invention has been described with reference to illustrative embodiments, this description is not intended to be construed in a limiting sense. In addition, various modifications and combinations of the illustrative embodiments, as well as other embodiments of the invention, will be apparent to persons skilled in the art upon reference to the description. Words of inclusion are to be interpreted as nonexhaustive in considering the scope of the invention. Various modifications and combinations of the illustrative embodiments, as well as other embodiments of the invention, will be apparent to persons skilled in the art upon reference to the description. It is therefore intended that the appended claims encompass any such modifications or embodiments.

What is claimed is:

1. A computing system comprising:

a processor controlled by software and connected to a system bus;

a module that inserts into said computing system and is connected to said system bus;

a mechanism that locks and releases said module to and from said computing system, wherein said mechanism further includes:

a primary lever which engages said module;

a manual button which moves said primary lever and disengages said primary lever from said module;

a pin that moves from a blocking position in front of said manual button to a non-blocking position clear of said manual button; and

a solenoid that controls movement of said pin; and

means for controlling said mechanism responsive to said processor under software control to move said mechanism to an un-locked position when directed by software and when said system is turned off.

2. The system of claim **1**, wherein said module is a battery system.

3. The system of claim **1**, wherein said module is a media bay module.

4. The system of claim **3**, wherein said media bay module is a CD-ROM.

5. The system of claim **3**, wherein said media bay module is a hard disk drive.

6. The system of claim **3**, wherein said media bay module is a floppy disk drive.

7. The system of claim **3**, wherein said media bay module is a magneto-optical drive.

8. A computing system comprising:

a processor controlled by software and connected to a system bus;

an input means connected to said processor by said system bus;

an output means connected to said processor by said system bus; and

a module that inserts into said computing device and is connected to said system bus; and

a mechanism that locks and releases said module to and from said computing device, and wherein said mechanism includes:

a primary lever that engages said module when said module is inserted into said computing device;

a manual button which moves said primary lever and disengages said primary lever from said module and;

blocking means under software control for blocking or unblocking actuation of said manual button.

9. The system of claim **8**, wherein said blocking means is also actuated when said system is turned off.

* * * * *